



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460

JAN 20 2015

OFFICE OF WATER

The Honorable Jeff Flake  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Flake:

Thank you for your November 13, 2014, letter to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency regarding the U.S. Department of the Army's and the EPA's proposed rulemaking to define the scope of the Clean Water Act consistent with science and the decisions of the Supreme Court. The agencies' rulemaking process is among the most important actions we have underway to ensure reliable sources of clean water on which Americans depend for public health, a growing economy, jobs, and a healthy environment.

We appreciate your prior letters on this issue and these additional comments you have provided on our proposed rule. We are including your letter in the official docket for the proposed rule, identified by Docket ID EPA-HQ-OW-2011-0880 at <http://www.regulations.gov>. We will carefully consider your comments and all comments received on the proposed rule when deciding what changes to make to the final rule.

Thank you again for your letter. We look forward to working with Congress as our Clean Water Act rulemaking effort moves forward. Please contact me if you have additional questions on this issue, or your staff may contact Denis Borum in the EPA's Office of Congressional and Intergovernmental Relations at [borum.denis@epa.gov](mailto:borum.denis@epa.gov) or (202) 564-4836.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kenneth J. Kopocis". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Kenneth J. Kopocis  
Deputy Assistant Administrator